

STUDIES ON THE QUALITY OF IRRIGATION WATERS IN KALAWEWA AREA

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The knowledge of the chemical composition of the irrigation water, its effect on salt build-up during irrigation period is essential for adopting irrigation especially in the Mahaweli irrigation project area. The suitability of an irrigation water depends upon several factors. Periodical variation of PH, cationic and anionic composition, SAR and RSC of the irrigation waters collected at certain selected sampling spots in the Kalawewa area were studied. A remarkable increase of SAR values were observed in April and to a certain extent in November. It is possible to establish some kind of correlation between these values and the water management, yield, etc.

The determination of potassium, nitrogen and phosphate contents reveals the monitoring of actual consumption of fertilizer by the crop.

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